

00862.003186.1

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:	)	
	:	Examiner: I. SherAli
MASAMI KATO	)	
	:	Group Art Unit: 2621
Application No.: Not Yet Assigned	)	
	:	
Filed: Concurrently Herewith	)	
	:	
For: IMAGE PROCESSING	)	
APPARATUS AND METHOD	:	November 17, 2003

**This application is a division under 37 C.F.R  
§ 1.53 (b) of Application No. 09/466,907.**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Prior to examination on the merits, please amend the above-identified application as follows.